# Idaho State Department of Agriculture Noxious Weed Cost Share Grant Accomplishments for 2002

# Prepared 04/2003 by Brenda Waters Noxious Weed Program Coordinator

# Total Amount of 2002 Funds distributed \$1.34 million

Grant Fund Source	Percent of \$ Distributed Funds		
BLM \$	24		
USFS Fire \$	25		
USFS Non-Fire \$	17		
Idaho T&B \$	34		
Total	100		

Grant Fund Source	Treated Acres (Herbicide, Manual & BioC's)	Mapped Acres	Restored Acres	Total Acres
BLM \$	4,487	18,666	215	23,368
USFS Fire \$	31,558	37,280	26,371	95,209
USFS Non-Fire \$	27,078	0	0	27,078
Idaho T&B \$	91,164	619,682	400	711,246
2002 Total	154,287	675,628	26,986	856,901

IWM Category	Number Projects Funded	Percentage of Funds
Education	35	8
Treatment (Herbicide, Manual & BioC's)	126	49
Inventory/Mapping	15	16
Prevention	13	3
Restoration/Revegetation	13	12
Other	19	12
Total	221	100

# 2002 Highlights of CWMA Projects:

# **Panhandle**

The Panhandle CWMA continued their tax notice project reaching and estimated 300,000 residents in seven counties. 2002 biological control efforts showed great success results from past releases of *Gallerucella spp.* on purple losestrife thus allowing for focus on a new insect, *Larinus minutus*, for use on Spotted Knapweed. The CWMA mapped blueweed, small bugloss and common bugloss, scotch broom, purple loosestrife, Japanese knotweed, and chicory. The first two infestations known of chicory were found in Shoshone County and eradicated. The attack on Eurasian watermilfoil continues with 3,500 pounds removed from Spirit Lake and 40,000 pounds removed from Hayden Lake by diver dredging.

# Tri-State Weed Management Area

The Tri-State Weed Management Area conducted some very ambitious projects this year. Over 2000 acres of rush skeletonweed, knapweed, white-top, common crupina, thistle, yellow starthistle, dalmatian toadflax, and leafy spurge were treated with herbicide and hand pulling. Nearly 1400 acres were mapped with the intention to use these locations to use remote sensing technology to identify additional weed infestations from the sky. The CWMA also participated in National Public Radio's *Living on Earth* program and provided interviews and footage for CNBC's *Plant's out of Place Part II* program.

#### **Clearwater Basin**

The CBCWMA focused on prevention by requiring a 50 foot buffer is now required on all gravel stockpiles and pits in 2002. Additionally, over 800 tons of weed free hay where certified as weed free in participating counties. Also several biological control workshops were held throughout the CWMA. Nearly 2600 acres were treated, including rush skeletonweed, white-top, spotted knapweed, and yellow starthistle, with over 200 acres earmarked for eradication.

# **Joseph Plains**

Approximately 22 days were spent mapping on the JPCWMA. Two new purple loosestrife infestations were located within the CWMA boundaries and are targeted for eradication. Nearly 4000 acres of weeds were treated including spotted knapweed, yellow starthistle, Indian thistle, plumeless thistle, and white-top. Locations of diffuse knapweed and leafy spurge were monitored for indication of reemergence in areas targeted for eradication. The Getta Creek rehabilitation trial was continued with the addition of 400 areas and the project area being seeded. Monitoring will begin in 2003.

#### **Palouse**

The Palouse had a very active year in 2002. Over 1200 acres of weeds were treated. The fourth annual noxious weed identification class was well attended and the CWMA purchased a display board for use at the county fair and other events. After preliminary inventory of the tansy tagwort on the CWMA, the decision was made to hire a GPS specialist in order to get a thorough inventory.

# Salmon River

Five weeds within the SRCWMA have been eradicated in the past seven years. In 2002, eight more weeds are scheduled for eradication with the treatment of 340 acres. Nearly 8000 acres were treated across all priority areas in 2002. In addition, biological control efforts focused on redistribution of *Eustenopus villosus*, a seedhead weevil that targets yellow starthistle. Prevention and public awareness projects conducted by the CWMA include using volunteer inspectors as part of the weed free forage and straw program, weed awareness posters at campgrounds, and distribution of weed booklets and brochures.

# **Adams County**

Several prevention and public awareness projects were conducted by the ACWMA including an applicator training session, a summer weed tour, and a booth at the Adams County Fair. Multiple weed species are targeted for eradication including Mediterranean sage, yellow starthistle, orange hawkweed, hoary cress, and dyer's woad. After last year's herbicide applications, 1250 acres were reseeded in 2002 with the assistance of 20 landowners.

## **Boise Basin**

Several control projects using funds from the ISDA cost share program resulted in the treatment of nearly 500 acres in the Atlanta, Minneha Creek, and Idaho City areas. Noxious weeds targeted included spotted knapweed, rush skeletonweed, orange hawkweed, hoary cress, and dalmatian toadflax. Also, a close eye was kept on the one known infestation of Japanese knotweed along the Middle Fork of the Boise River. There was no growth after treatment last year.

# **Lower Payette**

The LPCWMA made the prevention of new invaders the #1 priority in 2002. Certified hay exchanges, hosted by Washington and Payette Counties, resulted in 7 tons of hay being exchanged and information about noxious weeds as well. Payette County was featured in a commercial about the dangers of Eurasian watermilfoil filmed by the Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign. Additionally, areas of past yellow starthistle infestations were monitored. Education efforts included a pre-tour of treatment sites, speaking at the Payette SWCD 6<sup>th</sup> grade field day and to students at TVCC, and a workshop on purple loosestrife. Over 700 acres were treated in 2002 including many Snake River Islands.

## **Lower Weiser River**

Education efforts in the LWCWMA include a certified hay exchange, an Open House, and the publishing of a quarterly newsletter. Control efforts focused on the waterways, especially irrigation canals. Targeted weeds included leafy spurge, scotch thistle, rush skeletonweed, and hoary cress. Eradication efforts battered yellow starthistle and areas of diffuse and spotted knapweed. Rehabilitation efforts concentrated on the Keithley Creek fire area. Seed was distributed to private landowners for reseeding before snowfall.

# **Snake River Breaks**

Weather severely impacted the SRBCWMA project days in 2002. Despite project rescheduling, over 180 acres were treated. Additionally, *Brachypterolus pulcarius* was released on dalmatian toadflax in the Steck Park area. A popular addition to the Snake River Breaks educational tools was a plant display where a silica gel was used to preserve entire weeds in 3-D and shown off in the associated display case.

# **South Fork of the Boise**

The South Fork of the Boise focused on education in 2002. Two weed identification seminars were held followed by spray days in the Pine/Featherville and Prairie areas. Additionally, a noxious weed free hay exchange was conducted. Approximately 4 tons of hay was exchanged. Additionally, the SFBCWMA supported the NRCS "Bug Catch Crew" which consists of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders from the area. The "Crew" collected and released insects on Leafy Spurge.

# **Upper Payette**

The UPCWMA used fire in 2002 for weed control. In the Montour area, plant residual was burned in order to effectively treat poison hemlock rosettes near the ground. Other weeds targeted include leafy spurge, dalmatian toadflax, scotch thistle, Canada thistle and spotted knapweed. Education projects included a certified hay exchange, posting of new signs, and workshop presentations given by CWMA members.

# **Blaine County**

Two projects were the main focus of the Blaine County CWMA. A two-day demonstration project focusing on the control of diffuse and spotted knapweed occurred on lands adjacent to Highway 75. Additionally, a stem-boring weevil (*Mecinus jancinus*) was made on dalmatian toadflax infestations along the Big Wood River.

## Camas Creek

The Camas Creek CWMA focused heavily on rush skeletonweed. Rush skeletonweed was first found on the Camas Prairie in 2000 and is a rapidly spreading invader. Additionally, Camas Creek CWMA participated in a two-day demonstration project in conjunction with the Blaine County CWMA along Highway 75. Other control projects were conducted on the Willow Creek Fire area, Moonstone area, and Mormon Reservoir.

# **Northside Tri-County**

The Northside Tri-County CWMA took an active role in eradicating dyers woad in Lincoln County, and dalmatian toadflax in Jerome County. Additionally, the CWMA participated in several public awareness projects including posting 10 weed education signs throughout Jerome, Lincoln and Gooding Counties and participating in the local county fair.

#### **Shoshone Basin**

Priority weeds for the Shoshone Basin CWMA included Russian knapweed and white-top. Areas treated included Deep Creek, Duck Springs, and Cottonwood Creek. Additionally, the SBCWMA monitored insect releases on diffuse knapweed in the Hollister area.

# Minidoka Snake River Corridor

A highlight of the Minidoka Snake River Cooridor projects was the City of Hayburn Weed Warrior Day. Approximately 35 people collected nearly 3000 pounds of weeds, primarily puncturevine. The Snake River Corridor and several Islands in the river were the focus of control efforts. ATVs, backpack sprayers, and shovels were used to remove weeds such as Scotch thistle and Canada thistle. Additionally, nearly 1000 flies were released on Jackson Island in the hope of establishing an insectory for control of Canada thistle.

# **Black Snake**

The Black Snake CWMA continued supporting local high school's involvement in noxious weed issues. Secretary of Commerce Donald Evans invited Bingham County students to participate in Global Science and Technology Week after hearing of the student's efforts in the fight against weeds. In the summer of 2002, students mapped noxious weeds on 61 miles of canals, 19 miles of riverbanks, and 18 acres in the Rose Pond area. Leafy spurge and other noxious weeds were controlled along Cedar Creek, the West River, Brush Creek, and American Falls.

# **Highlands**

The Highlands CWMA continued with its school education program by taking a PowerPoint presentation to eight local schools and sponsoring a 500 word essay contest. Over 300 excellent essays were received! The second annual "Bag of Woad" program exceeded expectations with over 4,000 bags of dyer's woad being collected and turned in by local youth. Five work days were completed targeting hoary cress, dalmatian toadflax, perennial pepperweed, and leafy spurge. Over 1,600 acres were treated. Additionally, a helicopter GPS survey for leafy spurge was conducted.

## **Power**

Due to three large fires in 2000, the Power CWMA had much work to do. The fires were mapped and located weeds were treated. The Birch Creek project was monitored for grass establishment and treated where necessary. The 2002 rewards program has lead to two good leads on new invaders helping to avoid infestations of new species in the Power CWMA.

## **Utah and Idaho**

In the spring of 2002, the UICWMA launch its first "Bag O' Woad" program. Over 108,650 pounds of dyer's woad were collected by youth in two Utah counties and three Idaho Counties, Bannock, Franklin, and Oneida. Participation was so high the budget was exhausted quickly. A local workday was held in Downey, ID where efforts were expanded to control all noxious weeds within the city. Biological control efforts focused on poison hemlock, leafy spurge, purple loosestrife, and spotted knapweed with many sites showing excellent results.

# **Custer County**

The Custer County CWMA conducted a major educational campaign in 2002 by mailing a letter explaining a property owner's role in weed control to all 4500 landowners in Custer County. Additionally, the Challis High School Envirothon Team has been very active in the biological control efforts. The students have assisted with the collection and release of insects for control of leafy spurge and spotted knapweed. CWMA control projects included Pahsimeroi/Centennial Flat leafy spurge and Willow Creek Spotted Knapweed.

# **Continental Divide**

The Continental Divide CWMA was very active in 2002. Spray projects were completed in Mud Lake, Medicine Lodge, Beaver Creek, and Birch Creek. Additionally, the annual Interstate Spray Days, which focus on I-15, was another success. Sheep were used in the Medicine Lodge Sinks to limit seed production of leafy spurge. Russian knapweed infestations were mowed, tilled, and seeded to provide competitive grass cover for next spring. In order to map and identify isolated weed infestations in Birch Creek, a Backcountry Posse ride was organized.

# Henry's Fork

Education about weed issues was highlighted in a Harriman State Park weed pull day that involved 24 participants. Additionally, approximately 1,000 weed identification cards were handed out along with general weed information packages to numerous homeowners in the Island Park area. South Fremont High School students conducted a mapping project in the southern portion of the CWMA and mapped over 800 locations. Herbicide control projects focused on weeds such as leafy spurge, dyers woad, and purple loosestrife. Biological control agents were released on leafy spurge, spotted knapweed, and St. Johnswort.

# **Lemhi County**

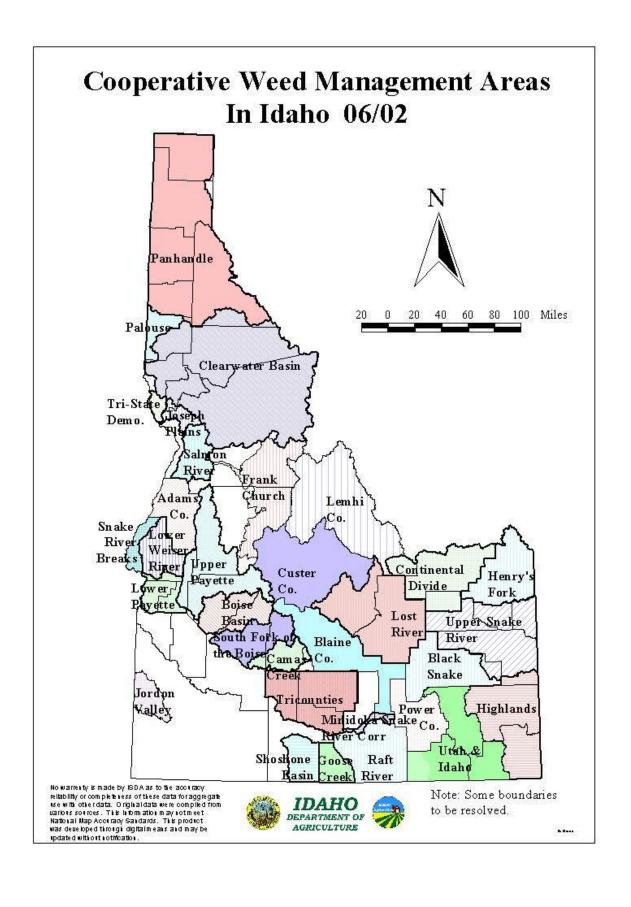
Educational projects conducted by the Lemhi County CWMA included a weed fair booth, conducting presentations at the Cattlemen's Winter School and Stewardship for Small Acreage Landowners, and an Adopt-A-Lot program. Mapping projects included a sulfur cinquefoil project in the North Fork drainage and a helicopter survey of Carmen Creek for leafy spurge. Hoary cress, leafy spurge, and knapweed were the focus of many spray projects. Additionally, goats were used in the Carmen and Kirtley Creek drainages and the City of Salmon's water works area.

## **Lost Rivers**

The Lost Rivers CWMA was heavily involved at local high schools. The War On Weeds team consisted of students from Butte County High School. The students mapped the Sagebrush Steppe Reserve for noxious weeds and collected and distributed biological control agents for leafy spurge. Helicopter distribution of leafy spurge biological control agents continued in 2002 with 150 new drops being made. Several spray projects were conducted focusing on many different noxious weeds.

# **Upper Snake**

During 2002, the USCWMA provided several educational opportunities by hosting workshops, conducting tours, and developing printed materials such as a pocket calendar and all weather "Wanted" posters. For inventory and mapping, the USCWMA coordinated with Shelly and Bonneville High School to map areas in all four participating counties. The second year of goat grazing leafy spurge in the Cartier Slough Wildlife Management Area was considered a success since no fall regrowth of leafy spurge was noted after treatment. Several projects were conducted targeting local weed concerns including purple loosestrife on the Snake River, Teton Area leafy spurge, and Menan Area leafy spurge and spotted knapweed.



Idaho's Cooperative Weed Management Areas – 2002

CWMA	County Weed Superintendent		Chair
Adams	Becky Snorgrass (Adams)	(208) 253-4469	Julie Burkhardt
Bingham	Paul Muirbrook (Bingham)	(208) 785-8066	Dean Twitchell
Boise Basin	Mike Bottoms (Boise)	(208) 392-6636	Mike Bottoms
Camas Creek	Terry Lee (Camas)	(208) 764-3512	Carl Rey
Clearwater Basin	Gary O'Keefe (Latah)	(208) 883-2265	Chris Kuykendall
Continental Divide	Mitch Whitmill (Clark)	(208) 374-5121	Keith Bramwell
Custer	Jim Hawkins (Custer)	(208) 879-2344	Gary Chamberlain
Frank Church River of No Return	Mike Overcracker (Lemhi)	(208) 756-2824	Howard Lyman
Goose Creek	Gordon Edwards (Cassia)	(208) 878-4043	Gordon Edwards
Henry's Fork	Dave Rydalch (Fremont)	(208) 624-7442	Craig McClure
Highlands	Todd Transtrum (Bear Lake)	(208) 847-0098	Larry Mickelson
Joseph Plains	Carl Crabtree (Idaho)	(208) 983-2667	Carl Crabtree
Lemhi	Mike Overcracker (Lemhi)	(208) 756-2824	Shannon Williams
Lost River	Chad Cheney (Butte)	(208) 527-8587	Randy Purser
Lower Weiser River	Bonnie Davis (Washington)	(208) 414-1950	Dave Springer
Lower Payette	Rory Clinton (Payette)	(208) 278-3452	Richard Hampton
Northside Tri-County	Terry Ruby (Gooding, Jerome, and Lincoln)	(208) 934-5569	Terry Ruby
Palouse	Gary O'Keefe (Latah)	(208) 883-2265	Suzanne Qualmann
Panhandle	Tim Dietz (Kootenai)	(208) 446-1290	Sandy Daniel
Raft River	Gordon Edwards (Cassia)	(208) 878-4043	Gordon Edwards
Salmon River	Carl Crabtree (Idaho)	(208) 983-2667	Carl Crabtree
Shoshone Basin	Kali Ruiz (Twin Falls)	(208) 734-9000	Alex Kunkel
Snake River Breaks	Bonnie Davis (Washington)	(208) 414-1950	Dave Springer
Minidoka Snake River Corridor	Reid Smith (Minidoka)	(208) 438-8195	Reid Smith
South Fork of the Boise	Stacey Prow (Elmore)	(208) 587-2136	Mir Seyedbagheri
Tri-State	Lyle Skinner (Nez Perce)	(208) 799-3066	Lynn Danly
Upper Payette	John Johann (Valley)	(208) 382-7199	Mike Bottoms
Upper Snake	Jeffrey Pettingill (Bonneville)	(208) 529-1397	Steve Smart
Utah & Idaho	Jerry Hobson (Bannock)	(208) 234-4139	Jerry Hobson